

Message Text

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44

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 IO-14 AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01

OIC-04 DRC-01 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /149 W

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O P 271400Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 317

SECDEF/WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 8874

FROM US REP MBFR

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: PROPOSED CHANGE OF WORDING IN U.S. OPENING STATEMENT

1. WE BELIEVE MID-EAST EVENTS MAKE IT ADVISABLE TO MAKE LIMITED CHANGES IN PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE U.S. OPENING STATEMENT FOR THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH DESCRIBES THE BENERAL CONTEXT IN WHICH THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE. OUR PROPOSED WORDING OF PARAGRAPH 8 FOLLOWS BELOW. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST APPROVAL IF FEASIBLE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS LOCAL TIME, MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 8: THESE NEGOTIATIONS THOUGH THEY CONTAIN UNIQUE FEATURES AND WILL BREAK NEW GROUND ARE NOT TAKING PLACE IN ISOLATION. THEY ARE TAKING PLACE IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT WHICH INCLUDES BOTH FAVORABLE AND DIFFICULT ELEMENTS IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS. IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED IN BERLIN WHICH WE HOPE WILL ELIMINATE THAT CITY AS A SOURCE OF FUTURE CONFRONTATION. THE SECOND PHASE OF CSCE HAS BEGUN IN GENEVA AND
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COULD LEAD TO POSITIVE RESULTS. THE LAST FEW YEARS HAVE SEEN A

NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS, NOTABLY THE SALT AGREEMENT SIGNED LAST YEAR BETWEEN MY GOVERNMENT AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, WHICH BEGIN TO LIMIT THE TWO POWERS' ARSENALS OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS. SALT NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW IN PROGRESS ON A PERMANENT AGREEMENT ON MORE COMPLETE MEASURES ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS. THE TRAGIC OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE EVENTS SURROUNDING IT ALSO UNAVOIDABLY FORM PART OF THE CONTEXT IN WHICH THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEGINNING. THE MID-EAST CRISIS HAS MADE CLEAR ONCE AGAIN THE SERIOUS RISKS INVOLVED IN A CONFRONTATION OF MILITARY FORCES. IT HAS ALSO SHOWN AGAIN THAT THE GENUINENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF DETENTE DEPENDS MORE ON OBJECTIVE, CONCRETE ACTS WHICH CHANGE OBJECTIVE FACTS THAN ON STATEMENTS OF INTENTION.
END TEXT.HUMES

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